



## U.S.-Antigua and Barbuda Partnership 2019

The United States of America works with Antigua and Barbuda to increase security, prosperity, and democracy in the Caribbean. A beneficiary of large regional programs like the FY19 US\$58 million Caribbean Basin Security Initiative (CBSI) and small community-led grants, Antigua and Barbuda is an important regional partner of the United States.



### Security

- U.S. experts led 25 training courses and conferences to support the professional development of members of the police force, military, prison service, judiciary, financial intelligence unit, and customs and border departments.
- Defence Force Coast Guard Lieutenant Trish Lake received professional military leadership training from the U.S. Coast Guard in New London, Connecticut.
- The Police Records Management Information Systems (PRMIS) is transitioning police stations from paper-based to digital reporting. Part of USAID's US\$14 million CARISECURE program, PRMIS enables interagency data-sharing and collaboration. Law enforcement departments received equipment valued in excess of US\$280,000.
- With USAID's support, Antigua now has child justice legislation for children accused of committing offences. This legislation includes protection for the rights of children, an increase in the minimum age of criminal capacity, and diversion of cases away from formal court procedures where appropriate.
- The newly established Child Justice Board, the first of its kind in the OECS, performs initial inquiries of all matters related to children and makes determinations whether these matters should proceed to the court or be dealt with through alternative pathways and programs.



### Prosperity

- The United States funded two sub-regional resiliency conferences in disaster preparedness, emergency response, and recovery, announcing US\$9.5 million in funding through the U.S.-Caribbean Resilience Partnership.
- The United States sponsored a disaster management exchange focused on critical infrastructure and interagency collaboration between the Florida National Guard and the Antigua and Barbuda Defence Force.
- The Young Leaders of the Americas Initiative (YLA) Network and Exchange supports young entrepreneurs with mentoring, resources, and expert advice to grow their businesses. The U.S. Embassy sponsored prizes for the winners of two StartUp Summit competitions and supported entrepreneur Elijah James to expand the Business Circle startup incubator at the Antigua Public Library.



### Education and Health

- Through the US\$9 million USAID/OECS Early Learners Program, the United States provided reading materials to over 5,000 Antiguan students.
- Three young professionals and two high school students gained leadership and networking skills in the United States through the International Visitor Leadership and Youth Ambassador Programs.
- Public health officials and clinicians were trained in prevention, neonatal care, statistical analysis, and mosquito identification. Officials also received related supplies and equipment to help reduce the risk of Zika.
- U.S. expert Jessica Mindlin of the Victim Rights Law Center shared best practices with the staff of the Directorate of Gender Affairs, including how to effectively advocate on behalf of victims of gender-based violence (GBV).
- More than 20 members of the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda received victim-centered training in the handling of sensitive GBV cases.



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